

## REMARKS

### Introduction

Claims 1-30, 32-40, 42-71, and 73-141 are pending in this application.

The Examiner allowed claims 1-5, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18-30, 32-40, 42-56, 58-71, 73-79, 81-86, 88-102, 111, 112, 121-135, and 137-141.

The Examiner objected to claims 6-10, 12, 15, 17, 33, 57, 80, 87, 103-110, 113-120, and 136 as having various informalities.

The Examiner indicated that this application is in condition for allowance, except for the objections to the claims, and closed prosecution on the merits under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Applicants' Reply to the Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 6 for reciting a "phase locked loop" element because claim 3 also recites a "phase locked loop" element. Claims 3 and 6 both directly depend from independent claim 1, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 6 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 3). Thus, the elements of claim 6 do not duplicate the elements of claim 3. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is

improper and request that the objection to claim 6 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claims 7 and 12 for each reciting an "operating parameter" element because claim 4 also recites an "operating parameter" element. Claims 4, 7, and 12 all indirectly depend from independent claim 1, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claims 7 and 12 do not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 4 and claim 12 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 7). Thus, the elements of claims 7 and 12 do not duplicate the elements of claim 4. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claims 7 and 12 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 8 for reciting a "programmable power down signal" element because claim 5 also recites a "programmable power down signal" element. Claims 5 and 8 both indirectly depend from independent claim 1, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 8 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 5). Thus, the elements of claim 8 do not duplicate the elements of claim 5. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 8 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claims 9 and 10 because they depend from claim 6 which has been objected to. Applicants have shown that that the objection to claim 6 is improper and should be withdrawn. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the objection to claims 9 and 10 also be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claims 15 and 17 for each reciting a "reset signal" element because claim 13 also recites a "reset signal" element. Claims 13, 15, and 17 all directly or indirectly depend from independent claim 1, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claims 15 and 17 do not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 13 and claim 15 does not depend directly or indirectly from claim 17). Thus, the elements of claims 15 and 17 do not duplicate the elements of claim 13. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claims 15 and 17 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 33 for reciting an "operating parameter" element because claim 29 also recites an "operating parameter" element. Claims 29 and 33 both indirectly depend from independent claim 26, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 33 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 29). Thus, the elements of claim 33 do not duplicate the elements of claim 29.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 33 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 57 for reciting a "buffer memory circuitry" element because claim 54 also recites a "buffer memory circuitry" element. Claims 54 and 57 both indirectly depend from independent claim 40, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 57 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 54). Thus, the elements of claim 57 do not duplicate the elements of claim 54. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 57 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 80 for reciting a "differential driver circuitry" element because claim 79 also recites a "differential driver circuitry" element. Claims 79 and 80 both directly depend from independent claim 71, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 79 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 80). Thus, the elements of claim 80 do not duplicate the elements of claim 79. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 79 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 87 for reciting a "buffer memory circuitry" element because claim 54 also recites a "buffer memory circuitry" element. Claim 54 indirectly depends from independent claim 40, while claim 87 depends directly from independent claim 71 (i.e., claim 87 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 57). Thus, the elements of claim 87 do not duplicate the elements of claim 54. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 87 be withdrawn.

The Examiner objected to claim 136 for reciting a "loopback circuitry" element because claim 135 also recites a "loopback circuitry" element. Claims 135 and 136 both indirectly depend from independent claim 128, but are not otherwise related (i.e., claim 136 does not depend either directly or indirectly from claim 135). Thus, the elements of claim 136 do not duplicate the elements of claim 135. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that this objection is improper and request that the objection to claim 136 be withdrawn.

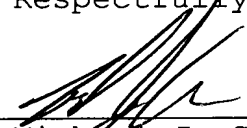
The Examiner objected to claims 103-110 and 113-120 because the preamble of these dependent claims recite "circuitry" without specifying a particular circuitry. Applicants have amended claims 103-110 to recite

"programmable serializer circuitry" and claims 113-120 to recite "programmable deserializer circuitry." No new matter has been added and these amendments are fully supported the specification. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the objection to claims 103-110 and 113-120 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application, including claims 1-30, 32-40, 42-71, and 73-141, is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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